

FRS NEWSLETTER

Volume 5- Issue # 30/31 - July 2001

Dear FRS-Holland Friend!

Welcome in this *double* 2001 edition. Due to personal commitments it was impossible to have the Newsletter ready mid June (as planned). Apologies for that!! A message was sent by Email early July reaching only those of you who have access to the Internet and whose addresses are stored in the FRS addressbook. If you are willing to join, please send us an Email and you will be automatically informed about any future developments and broadcasts. As we edited already 9 pages of radio news, the idea came up to make this a 14 page (!) double Summer edition. So in the end two Mini Features were added as well as the very latest news from the world of wireless. And that resulted in a very informative Newsletter worth while to read in your lazy chair. A very comprehensive SW column, the latest from Caroline and not to forget News from around the World. For those interested in obtaining interesting radio stuff on cassette or MiniDisc: we've added some interesting new recordings to our Sales Lists. Some of the stuff is offered at special summer rates within this magazine.

As far as FRS-Holland is concerned, there's not too much news. We hope you will enjoy (or have enjoyed) your Summer holidays!!

73's, Peter V.

Ps As this very edition combines the June/ September ones, the next FRS Newsletter will be out late November/ early December !!

FRS NEWSCORNER

Joop ter Zee

Last Wednesday June 27th it was exactly one year ago that FRS presenter Joop ter Zee died in hospital. For us a very special day! That evening a number of current and old FRS staff got together reminiscing. We shall never forget him, in a future broadcast we will certainly commemorate Joop. We think it is good to do that once a year.

Previous Broadcasts

March saw a number of successful 31 mb tests (early Sunday morning) on 9295 kHz. Both the 18th and 25th reports were received from North America and Australia.

Future Broadcasts

FRSH is always inactive in the Summer period due to the poor propagation. However, we will be active late August or in September. That broadcast could be a 24 hour one with a 4 hour loop tape repeated several times. We have done that a few times in the past (mid/late 90s). We also plan to continue with irregular 31 metre tests as well. In addition we will be putting out a few occasional low powered tests on 48 metres starting in August. Late October FRS-Holland hopes to celebrate its 21st anniversary. We will keep you up-to-date via the Internet.

FRS Sales Productions

FRS Sales Productions offers you a wide range of video and audio tapes from radio stations all over the world. At this moment a great number of new recordings are added to the list. This includes some very interesting Radio Northsea Int. and Caroline stuff as well as a series of recordings from landbased SW stations. In case you are interested in obtaining the complete brandnew FRS Sales Prod. Catalogue, then send DM 3.00/ 2 IRCs/ US 2.00/ £ 1.50 / f2,- to FRS Sales Productions, P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands. Special offers will be

made via the quarterly FRS Newsletter and on the Internet. We offer tapes & videos for incredible prices, special discounts are given when ordering more than 5 tapes. And from now on recordings can also be obtained on MD or CD!! It's worth while to get hold of the revised catalogue, so where are you waiting for??

The FRS SALES LIST 2000 contains hundreds of recordings from radio stations all over the world. After months of hard work the catalogue is now fully updated.

It's also available via Email (attachment) in Ascii, Word or Corel WP9 format (free). It's worth while to get hold of the revised catalogue!!

Internet / Snailmail Adresse(s)

< frsh@club.tip.nl >, < frsh@go.to > or
< peter.verbruggen@tip.nl >.

P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands

SW FREE RADIO SCENE

General

Hello and welcome in the Summer edition of the FRS Newsletter, one of the very few *written* media nowadays concentrating on SW Free Radio. In this edition we are covering the period Sun March 25th- June 3rd. Looking back at the winter period we may conclude that the overall propagation conditions were (very) satisfactory. Just look at the number of weekends Euro pirates were received in North America and other parts of the world! Sun April 1st was the first Sunday that propagation was really poor. April/ May are usually poor months and 2001 was no exception (although there are always Sundays being a bit better than what you may expect). Conditions during evening/ overnight on 48 metres are excellent. And that causes more Sat/Sun evening activity. Even on weekdays a number of 48 mb freqs are regularly in use. A few things which may be worth mentioning:

* Quite a number of stations is using (very) high freqs: Alfa Lima Int 15070 kHz, Borderhunter 15795 kHz LSB, Black Arrow 15807 kHz, Blandengue 14566 kHz LSB, Cochiguaz 11440 kHz USB, Wrekin 12256 kHz and East Coast Holland & Bandonica on 11485 kHz. Alfa Lima and Borderhunter have been heard a number of times in South & North America and Australia. Occasional tests took place on 9292 by Mike Radio and Radio Blue Star.

* More and more stations are using high powers and very long marathon trms are no exceptions these days. We wonder if this is a positive development... Just look a Tower Radio on 6306. Is it only the high power and the fact the station is on air for so many hours that counts?? There are enough DXers who do not care about these elements. We prefer stations with decent programming being on the air once a month for a couple of hours. One of the attractions of SW is (was??) that stations operated once a month (every 1st/2nd/3rd/4th Sunday) making DXers looking out for such stations. And 100 or 150W is more than enough to put out a decent signal.... Why so much power knowing it does not make so much difference with 100 or 150W??

* Radio Free London made 6400 popular. Now it seems this freq is undergoing a (temporary?) revival. Many stations were using 6400 in May and early June. Mainly Dutchies for QSO purposes...

* Here's a little overview of different "pirate bands on SW": 76 mb 3.880-3.999: Very popular even with low power, not much



activity. Best known station is Radio Korak on 3927 kHz, Laser Hot Hits is on 3935 kHz; 85 metre communications band 3450-3495 KHz LSB: The Echo Charlie Band [CB type band] calling channel 3475 LSB band is about 25 KHz either side of central frequency, occasional traffic UK, Germany and Holland, strong QRM at times, utility traffic, take care; 52 mb 5700-5875: The 52 metre band used when the 48 mb is either full of stations or not propagating very well second hobby pirate broadcasting band; 48 mb 6200-6400 (and beyond): The 48 metre band, this is the big one with lots of stations on at the weekends and holidays etc from most of Europe and the UK plus a few from Scandinavia, with very little power good results can be achieved, the main Sunday morning hobby pirate broadcast band; 45 mb 6.600-6.700 KHz LSB: This is known as the Echo Charlie range of frequencies with the calling frequency of 6670 LSB, good band for European traffic. Lots of stations from the UK, Germany, France, Netherlands, Belgium. Stations running with powers as low as 2 to 5 watts, also used by utility stations; 43 mb 6940-6955: This is the main US pirate band where most of the operation is in side band; 42 mb 7395-7555: Propagating sometimes better than the 48 mb but only 3 to 4 stations using this band, also a good DX band after sunset. The outsider to this frequency range is the IRRS to be found on 7.120 kHz. Italian Radio Relay Service, these put to air pirate tapes sent by hobby broadcasters, look for Laser Hot Hits on 7.455 and Radio Ozone/BBMS on 7445/ 7480 kHz; 32 mb 9180-9350 kHz: The 32 mb is something of a new band, but has been experimented with; 25 mb 11400-11550 kHz: The 25 mb mainly 11.404v has been used, good daylight DX band with the odd station as low as 10355; 22 mb communications band: the 22 mb has also been experimented with, channels such as 12105 12130 12.160 up to 12256v with any clear spots in between; 21 mb communications band 13.630-13.995 kHz AM/ USB: the 13 mb has transcontinental traffic only occasionally used 13630 - 13960 is the main hobby pirate broadcasting range, there is also an International CB band where the calling frequency is 13995 USB; 18 mb 15550-15835 (and lower): The 18 mb for pirates runs from 15500 to 15835 but channels below this have been used such as 15025 and 15070 kHz, sometimes excellent for daylight DX; 21 MHz these three frequencies have been used 21450, 21565 and 21890 kHz; CB frequencies: 26285 International calling frequency lower section USB. 26740 International packet radio network LSB. 26965 local packet radio network FM. 27500 CW/RTTY frequency LSB. 27555 International calling frequency high section USB; Medium Wave low end 1625-1670: Most popular evening band with relatively low power 100 watts or less, the Dutch lead the World in pirating in this section with their barrel organ music, but Germany- Belgium- Greece- Spain- Malta- and the former Yugoslavia have used this range, also try 1350 1475 and 1593 KHz powers up to 3 kW have been used mainly via army/government surplus equipment. *Thanks to Wendy Evans (Ozone/ BBMS) for this interesting summary!!*

▣ **ADDRESS CHANGES:** The following stations move from the Dortmund address (9) to P.O.Box 100621, D-45806 Gelsenkirchen, Germany taking effect immediately: SCR, Stauder Radio, Radio Metropolis, Radio Galactica, European Country Radio and Polkawelle. Put on the envelope "Station C/O SCHOTTE"!

▣ **RADIO ALFA LIMA** (3) has been very successful with its 13 mb broadcasts on 21889 kHz. Without any problem, the station made it several times across the Atlantic. Also on 48 metres RAL was heard in North America. In Europe the station is to be heard with excellent signal quality each Sun morning in the 6280-6300 range. Power is some 400W. Friday March 2nd at

00.00 UTC Alfa Lima International was testing on 15070 kHz. It was said that the antenna wasn't 100% properly matched to te tx. During several 15070 tests RAL was heard in Australia, North and South America. The station is currently inactive on 48 metres. For the upcoming months Alfa Lima International will remain active on 15070 kHz AM starting on a regular base every Saturday evening around 22.00 or 23.00 UTC till the next morning approx. 07.00 UTC So now and then 48mb broadcasts will be carried out and in addition trms will recommence on 21890 kHz. Email: <alinter@rendo.dekooi.nl>.

▣ The names **APOLLO 815** and **RADIO APOLLO** could cause some confusion among SW DXers. Apollo 815 is a station based in the North-West of the Netherlands rarely to be heard on SW. The station made its debut trm Nov. 1st 2000. Sun March 11th the station was heard QSO-ing on 6240 with strong signals. Email: <apollo815@hotmail.com>.

▣ **RADIO AURORA** carried out a brief test Fri March 9th on 6285 playing non-stop pop music. The station OP claims he is far more listening rather than broadcasting on SW. He uses an amateur TRX Icom IC-737A having a freq range between 1.6 - 30 MHz. Output power is 40W (AM) and 120W (SSB). Antenna is an inverted V-Dipole hanging some 7 metres above the ground. Address is P.O.Box 20, S-95221 Kalix in Sweden. Email: <auroraradio@hotmail.com>.

▣ **RADIO BANDONICA** ceased broadcasting after almost 30 years of activity (not the whole period on SW). Sun July 15th Bandonica was transmitting for the final time with the help of Radio Enterprise. The 3 hour broadcast ran between 08.00-11.00 UTC on 11480 kHz. Listeners were requested to give the station a call or to visit <www.rendo.dekooi.nl/~dessert> (page of Radio Enterprise) writing something in the guestbook. Snailmail address remains (3).

▣ **BBMS** was heard with a fair signal on the European continent on 5800 kHz Sun March 18th. Pxs consisted of a Gary Stevens Show and the German Service hosted by Bobby Sparks. Sun April 15th 6199 was in use (together with Ozone Radio). Sun June 3rd final (?) show on 7480. Adress: 85 Hillside Road West, NR35 1RH, Suffolk, UK

▣ In recent months **RADIO BENELUX** was regularly logged on 7480 with nice, strong signals despite the low powered 35W (?) tx. Sun April 1st was an exception as the propagation that day spoilt everything. BNL was hardly to be heard on 7480. Sun May 20th conditions were better for reception on 7480. Sun June 3rd another scheduled 7480 broadcast was put out. That day BBMS/Ozone were also on 7480. In fact this is a repeat of the problems which occurred late January/ early February. Following telephone calls an agreement was made. Unfortunately it looks like Ozone didn't keep the promise not to use 7480 in case BNL was on. BNL now considers the idea of occupying 7480 every Sunday. BNL offers new music bands a chance playing demo tapes. Address is P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB Neede in the Netherlands.

▣ July 1st we received the following Email: **RADIO BERMUDADREIECK** is back. Keep listening to the 48m-band where several one-hour-broadcasts will take place. Our frequencies will be 6290 or 6260 kHz in the evening hours next week. For reception reports and any further information, please write to: P.O.Box 1136, D-06201 Merseburg in Germany. Email: <bermuda-sw@gmx.de>.

▣ **RADIO BLACK ARROW** was heard with a test on 15807 kHz Saturday May 5th between 06.00- 07.00 UTC. Sun March 18th the station was on 6202 kHz with a fair/ good signal. Mailing address: P.O.Box 128, 9410 AC Beilen in the Netherlands.



▣ **RADIO BLACKBEARD** from the UK was monitored on 6295 Sun April 15th. Later that day the station was also noted on 6310 with a nice signal suffering some interference from a Dutch powerhouse on 6306 kHz. Email: <bfm@orange.net>.

▣ **RADIO BLUE STAR** tested on 9292 kHz Sun April 15th. The broadcast was carried out in parallel with the 48 mb QRG on 6306 kHz. Even within the Netherlands the 9292 signal was picked up indicating that skip was rather short! Blue Star was on air between 07.30- 21.30 UTC! May 6th 9292 was again in use. Address is P.O.Box 1104, 8001 BC Zwolle. Email: <bluestar@home.nl>.

▣ **RADIO BORDERHUNTER** was heard in Nashville, Tennessee, USA in the night of Fri/ Sat March 31st. Freq was 15800 kHz and the signal was unusually strong: 45444!! Sun April 29th Borderhunter was logged on 6210 with a nice signal. During a few other occasions the station was heard testing on 15795 kHz being heard in several parts of the world including North & South America and Australia!! The station can be contacted via Email: <borderhunter@hotmail.com>. All "normal" post should be sent to: P.O.Box 44 in B-2387 Baarle-Nassau, Belgium.

▣ **RADIO BRIGITTE** was heard during various occasions on a handful of freqs. Sat April 7th OP Frans was heard on 6307. The next day Brigitte was on 6240. Sun April 29th Brigitte was heard on 6240 and 6307. May 26th/27th Brigitte was on 6373 with nice signal quality. Also in May/ June Brigitte was almost weekly active on 6373 kHz, mostly with fair/ good signals. Mod could be improved. Add is P.O.Box 15, B-2320 Hoogstraten in Belgium.

▣ **BRITAIN RADIO INT.** was heard testing via JRR on 6239 Sun April 29th. WE are not sure whether this was an old tape or not. In our view playing old tapes is of no use, so it's our guess it was a fresh tape. BRI hasn't been heard for a long time. The station operated by Roger Davis was a longtime SW broadcaster concentrating on putting out decent programming Sun mornings. BRI used to have a 2nd & 4th Sun format in the 80s/90s. Part of the shows went out via JRR but BRI made also use of own txs on 48/41 metres. The last known address was (4). Latest news: we were informed by JRR OP Joe Vincent that B.R.I. is about to return with regular monthly shows on SW. Currently Roger Davis is producing a pilot show. In the past B.R.I. was heard via own txs on 48 & 41 (7360) and in addition via JRR in Ireland.

▣ **RADIO CITY** - calling itselfs "The Station of the Cars"- can be heard so now and then on 41 metres. Sun May 27th City was broadcasting on 7497 kHz. Sun June 3rd 7471U was in use. Address is (1).

▣ **CRAZY WAVE RADIO** from Germany is nowadays only sporadically on air. Sun April 29th was such occasion, the station was heard on 6245 kHz putting out a fair signal. Pxs were moderated by Chris Ise and RFL (or former RFL jock) Andy Walker. Friday May 11th starting around 20 UTC, CWR was on 76 metres 3940 kHz. Two shows were aired: the German Service with Chris Ise from Berlin and the English Service with Andy Walker (London). A telephone line was open. An inverted V antenna was being used. Signal quality was fair. Mind you: CWR has no mailing address and does not forward any QSL cards. Sun July 8th saw CWR on 7480. Reports only via Email: <chrisise@gmx.net>.

▣ **CSIC RADIO** from Canada (!) was heard by US DXer Dave Hodgson in Nashville Tennessee. The CSIC test broadcast on 15055 AM was noted at, 22.07 UTC Sun July 8th. The weak signal buffeted by RFPI on 15049 and Taiwan on 15060.

▣ **RADIO DAIWA** tested on 6289/6290 in the early afternoon of Sun April 15th. The stations modulations was very poor. Daiwa used to be a regular 76 mb broadcaster but was very

inactive in the past two years. Address was (and still is???) P.O.Box 102, 7360 AC Beekbergen in the Netherlands.

▣ **RADIO DELTA** (not the Ruurlo one: this station is coming from Brabant in the south of the Netherlands) was heard on 6315 Sat June 2nd. Signal quality was fair. No further info! Email:

<deltapirat@hotmail.com>.

▣ New Email add for **DELTA LIMA RADIO** is <Sylke.W@t-online>.

▣ **RADIO DEVALON INT.** (9) took to the air with its debut broadcast on Easter Sun April 15th. The show was aired on 6211 following a test on March 19th on 6243 via RTI. Lots of FR infos and quality rock music was to be heard. Presentation was by Steve Young in English. Easter Mon April 16th the show was repeated on 6240 khz. Good luck for the future RDI!

▣ **RADIO EAST COAST HOLLAND** (3) told us that the station will change to 41 metres in the upcoming months (=Summer period). Possible freqs are 7480 or 7475 kHz. Power is about 120W which is more than enough to put out a decent signal on SW. Additional tests will be made Sat nights/ early on Sundays on 11485 kHz. Sun May 6th saw the final 48 mb px for the time being. The broadcast was on 6300 and the signal quality was as always excellent! Sun June 17th RECH tested in the 41 metre band on 7470kHz, a freq which was never used before. A px with a wide variety of popmusic started at 07.30 UTC. Email address is <eastcoastholland@hotmail.com>. Website: <www.eastcoastholland.net> or <www.listen.to/eastcoastholland>.

▣ **RADIO EAST SIDE** informs that a new QSL card and general Info letter have been produced. In addition an updated May 2001 Info letter is available. The station has a new production studio. Last but not least: later this year a commercial type 200W SW tx will be put into service making the station less dependent on powerful Dutch relays. Taking into effect right now is the chance of renting the 50W SW tx for DM 15 perhour or DM 25 for two hours. June 3rd RES was heard on 6226 with 50W. RES also produces shows relayed via Radio Cochiguaz in South America. Further plans involve Eastside FM on 95 MHz with 500 W PEP ! One of the stations relayed via this freq is Radio Marabu. This Summer tests will commence on 15 MHz and 21 MHz SW with 100 W SSB. Address is P.O.Box 1136 in D-06201 Merseburg, Germany.

New Email: <radioeastside@aol.com>.

Website: <www.radio-east-side.online.de>.

▣ Easter Sun April 15th saw on 6900 kHz a station calling itself **RADIO EURO SONOR**. Latin music was played. Email: <radio@eurosonor.de>.

▣ **RADIO EUREKA** is a new pirate from New Zealand/Australia (the only one...) on SW which went on air on 6235 June 10th at 19.00 hours UTC. Address: Radio Eureka Int., P.O.Box 3103, Onekawa, Napier, New Zealand. The station was already received in Australia with a strong signal recently.

▣ **EUROPEAN COUNTRY RADIO** made a restart on 6270 Monday May 28th radiating a European County Music Show. Address is c/o Schotte, P.O.Box 100621, D-45806 Gelsenkirchen in Germany.

▣ **THE FARMERS FROM HOLLAND** returned on SW following a long absence Sun July 8th. The station came on the air after Tower Radio signed off (evening hours) and was heard on 6307 kHz.

▣ **RADIO FOCUS** is a new station commencing broadcasts on Sun July 1st on 7540 kHz. Certainly an unusual freq outside the "normal" freq range. Email add is <Focus7540@aol.com>. We have no further infos. BTW: signal quality was certainly fine on 7540.

▣ **FREE RADIO HOLLAND** was heard on 6276 Sat April 28th. Signal was very strong. No doubt it's the former Radio Delta



from Ruurlo... Pirate radio runs in G's blood. Thursday May 24th (Ascension Day) the station was heard on 6275 between 10.00-13.45 UTC, apparently with 2 kW! . Add is P.O.Box 65, 7260 AB Ruurlo in the Netherlands.

☐ **RADIO FREE LONDON** is back on SW 5805! May 5th/6th a non-stop loop tape was aired containing the full story of Wonderful Radio London. From reliable sources we know it was the RFL tx. May 19th saw the station on Sat evening through the night till the late Sun evening. Sat/Sun May 26th/27th the station was heard with a music show interrupted by telephone calls to a number of listeners who had phoned the station the weekend before. Some interesting talks were noted and the RFL announcer said that it's the intention to bring back RFL on SW. Since early June RFL was heard on a weekly basis on 5805. One of the people heard on 5805 is Dave Small. We have no further info if and when RFL will return with a regular format and we

- 1 = P.O.Box 220342 / D-42373 WUPPERTAL / Germany
- 2 = 14 Stone Row/ COLERAINE/ Co. Londonderry/ BT52 1EP/ Northern Ireland.
- 3= P.O.Box 663, 7900 AR Hoogeveen, the Netherlands.
- 4 = P.O.Box 130/ 92504 RUEIL Cedex/ France.
- 5 = 12 Dorman Rd/ PRESTON/ Lancs PR2 6AS/ England.
- 6 = P.O.Box 5, 8100 AA RAALTE, the Netherlands
- 7 = P.O.Box 386/ 5900 AJ VENLO/ th Netherlands.
- 8 = Box 293/ Merlin/ Ontario N0P 1W0/ Canada.
- 9 = FRI, Postfach 520112, 44207/ DORTMUND/Germany.
- 10= SRS/ Östra Porten 29/ 442 54 YTTERBY/ Sweden.

don't exactly know which people from the previous crew will reappear on the station. But at least we we know this: the current activities is the work of Dave Small, Eric May and Kenny Myers intending to bring back RFL. It seems they've got a bit fed up waiting for Tony Randall to get his act together to bring it back. Rumours are circulating that Tony Randall and another person are intending to start another station themselves, it is likely to be an old name from the past!! One name from the past who seems to have disappeared is that of Andy Walker. Late February RFL ceased its weekly SW output due to serious internal conflicts. We would welcome a return 'cause the station always produced pxs worth while to listen to. Signal quality of 5805 in this period of the year is during daytime poor/fair on the continent whereas reception in the evenings and overnight is excellent! Mod quality is fine. No address has been mentioned so far, currently the station prefers listeners'criticism/involvement via telephone calls. The new Email address is: < 5805@RadioFreeLondon.co.uk >. Snailmail is the one used alreday before: 101B King's Cross Rd, London, WC1X 9LP in the UK. In one of the July broadcasts Dave Small said that "soon a few new presenters will join the station." And finally: a station calling itselfes "Enigma 819" seems to have jumped on Radio Free London's MW frequency with very strong signals in the West Kent area.

☐ **RADIO GALAXY** (UK) was heard on 6306 in the afternoon of Sat April 14th. In the studio were Bill Lewis, Dave Norris (Blackbeard) and Paul St. John. Signal was fair.

☐ British **RADIO GERONIMO** was heard a few times. Sun March 18th Geronimo was noted on 9315 kHz/ 31 metres. Late May a proposed Sun morning broadcast had to be cancelled due to problems with the car being used for mobile broadcasts. Geronimo was on Sunday evening (10th May) on 31mtrs at 17.45 9315khz 31mtrs and then at 18.30 UTC on 6285 kHz 48mtrs. Both with Peter Verbruggen programs. A telephone call from London made clear that the signal there was S9+20 which

is good for a evening especially after a day of bad conditions. Wed May 23rd in the evening saw Geronimo on 9315 and 6300. Sun May 27th a test on 7390 was carried out. Occasional tests were also done on 6880 and 7535. 6880 gave good results between 7 and 9 pm. Sun June 10th Geronimo tested on 6285 in the 48 mb. Signal quality on the continent was fair. More Geronimo tapes will soon be relayed by Alfa Lima, to fill in the times the station cannot be on air with its own equipment. Sun July 1st Geronimo was on 6285 with a fair signal on the continent. The broadcast took place in the early evening hours improving the chance of being heard well on the continent due to the better propagation. Email: < geronimo@hotmail.com >. The 64 Brighton Rd, Leicester LE5 0HA in the UK is no longer valid!! New address is the Yteerby one in Sweden: (10).

☐ In #28 (Dec. 2000) this very Newsletter reported about **RADIO GROLSCHMAN**, Radio Flashback and Radio Sparks all being operated by the same person. That's only partly true: Flashback and Sparks are indeed operated by one and the same OP but that's not the case for Grolschman. The latter is a relatively new station run by a well-known person (??) in free radio. Broadcasts are only so now and then. Music-wise the stations puts out a lot of 80s music. Address is: P.O.Box 44, 2387 Baarle-Hertog, Belgium. Email: < gruk48@hotmail.com >.

☐ **RADIO JOYSTICK** sent us an info-sheet including studio equipment and an overview of trms put out between 1985 and 1999. Station OP Charlie Prince that Joystick will take to the air via the IRRS (7120) July 21st. Email is

< webmaster@radiojoystick.de >. Add is P.O.Box 100812, D-45408 Mülheim/ Ruhr in Germany.

☐ **JRRI** is now back on 6240 kHz following a move to 6235. Since late March the power is 180W. The tx was repaired by Colin Clark from Laser Hot Hits. In April JRRI's Joe Vincent spread a message via Email in which he pointed at the many FR stations using 6240 which is in fact JRRI's permanent 48 mb frequency. Joe writes: "As we at JRRI are a regular broadcaster for the past 14 years, we have a team of dedicated International DJ's that produce recorded shows for every weekend. The DJ's are Eddie Russell - Texas, Big Bill Harris - North Carolina, Ted Clark - Holland, Bjarne Christensen - Denmark and myself Joe Vincent - Ireland, and guest DJ's. We have relayed countless FREE RADIO and legal stations over the years on short wave. The frequencies we usually use are 6235 and 6239 kHz. In recent times, lots of Free radio stations seem to broadcast on the same freq. as JRRI, even when we were on 6235. Why is it such a popular frequency from 6.237-6.240. We understand at JRRI that our signals will not get into Germany or Holland or the UK if there is a station from that country on same freq. It is a pity that the operators in those Countries do not realise the same, or perhaps they want to be heard locally only. Some of the stations that have been broadcasting near or on the same freq. as JRRI are stations that we have relayed in the past free of charge. Please feel free to drop me an e-mail if you think we should move and why. Or should other stations stay a few kcs further up or down the band." The subject of using certain freqs is rather delicate. If other stations state that no-one can claim any frequency, they are right. But on the other hand: if you know that a certain station is using a particular freq *every weekend*, it's understandable that the OP of that station may expect some cooperation. April saw reception of JRRI in Australia (for the first time). In addition the station was heard in the USA quiet frequently. Internet: The JRRI web site has been kicked out by Tripod due to audio files, we will be relocating real soon. The New ALL JRRI Playlist Board: < members4.boardhost.com/JRRI/ >. Email: < jr_radio@HotMail.com >. Add is P.O.Box 39, Waterford in Ireland.



▣ A new German station is **JUNGLE RADIO**. The station can be reached under c/o Schotte, P.O.Box 100621, 45806 Gelsenkirchen, Germany as well as via (9).

▣ **RADIO KORAK INT.** has been off the air for quite some time. But that doesn't mean the station has closed down. RKI is one of the very few true 76 mb stations and no doubt that won't change in the future. Many 76 mb stations have disappeared but not RKI. OP Willem who's a very friendly bloke, told us that RKI is about to return with a brandnew transmitter. Wednesday April 25th saw a test on 3927 at 20.15 UTC with nonstop music but no announcements. The signal was excellent and that could possibly mean it indeed was RKI testing the new rig. How powerful the new tx is, is just a guess but expect a few hundred watts (at least...) RKI is mostly on Sat evenings/ Sun mornings on 3927 or 3920 with a wide variety of pop music. You could say it's a continuation of the Int. music pxs Dutch 227m medium wave pirates put out in the 70s and 80s. Add is P.O.Box 134, 3780 BC Voorthuizen in the Netherlands. RKI was heard Sat evening May 26th on 3927 following a test the previous Tuesday evening. Also Sat June 1st the station was heard with a more than excellent signal on 3927.

▣ Berlin-based **LASER RADIO 208** put out its final show (for the time being) on 3910 Sat night April 28th. Roy Clark presented a two hour oldie show. The station's 1956 ex-army tx will be silent for at least 12 months. More info via < www.vogelfreiesradio.de >. The address: P.O.Box 840124, D-12531 Berlin, Germany.

▣ **RADIO LIBELLA** is the name of a new station which was heard on 6291 on Whit Saturday, Sunday & Monday. Trms were mobile from a car with a power of approx. 20W. Sun June 18th Libella carried out a 30W mobile trm on 6250. The tx has a max. capacity of 40W connected to an Inverted V. It seems two Email adds can be used: < radiolibella@hotmail.com > and < skate1977@hotmail.com >.

▣ **RADIO LIKEDEELER** was heard on 7490 Sun June 3rd. Signal was fair at the best.

▣ **RADIO LISA** (9) celebrated its 1st anniversary with a special broadcast on 6306 Sun April 15th. April 16th 2000 saw the station's debut on 6210. In the early days the station cooperated with Radio Eastside. Since January the station has its very own tx at its disposal. In addition relays via a Dutch station are taking place. Email: < radiolisa48@aol.com >.

▣ **LIVE WIRE RADIO** was heard with extremely strong signals on 6285 Sat night/Sun morning April 15th. It was a live broadcast and LWR was received with a "All 3's" sinop in the state of NY, USA.

▣ **RADIO MARABU** - Europe's radio station for alternative music- was heard from Saturday May 26th 18.00 UTC till the late Sun evening. As always the 6210 outlet was in use and signal quality was fair/good. Marabu was also heard via the IRRS on 7120 kHz with a two hour schedule 07.30-09.30/ 12.00-14.00 UTC Sat May 12th. June 10th-18th Marabu was on 27035 kHz. July 13th/14th Marabu was non-stop on 6210 with a loop tape and on the 14th between 09.30-11.30 7120 was in use (via IRRS). Radio Marabu, POBox 1166 - D 49187 Belm - Germany. Tel.: 05406/899484 - Fax: 05406/899485. Email: < marabu@radiomarabu.de >. Website: < www.radiomarabu.de >.

▣ April Fool's Day saw **RADIO MARINA** "live from the motorvessel Mebo" on 6210. German RNI OP Hannibal was responsible for this joke. Radio Marina was an offshore project intending to start pxs from the former RNI vessel Mebo II. The station never came on the air.

▣ According to RAN (-Radio Argus News) **RADIO MERLIN INT.** will be returning to the air sometime later this year. The station was very active on SW 6239 in the mid 90s but was

raided. Station OP Paul Watts had a lot of trouble with British authorities but it seems everything is ok now. Paul is now going to sue the DTI for loss of earnings. Paul lost his job as a direct result of the raid! We are curiously awaiting a sign of the 2001 version of Radio Merlin Int.!

▣ British **RADIO MI AMIGO** (?) was heard with 18W on 6275 Easter Sun/Mon April 15th/16th. Unfortunately there was strong USB-qrm. Sat April 28th Mi Amigo was heard on 6267 and 6300 (not in //). Mi Amigo- run by Tony Stevens- is the break-away station from British UK Radio (source: Argus News). Sun July 8th saw Mi Amigo on 6299. Address is same as UK Radio/ Uranium Radio.

▣ **MIKE RADIO** from the Netherlands was heard broadcasting on 9292 Sun April 29th. A fair signal was noted in the Netherlands, not to wonder knowing that skip on 31 metres is usually much longer than on 48. Signal could be significantly stronger further away from the transmitting site. Sun June 24th between 06.00- 08.00 UTC Mike Radio tested on 9290 kHz. Thurs July 5th at 19.00 UTC a one hour modulation test was carried out on 9290 followed by a one hour live show on Sun July 8th at 13.00 UTC. Sun July 15th in the very early morning hours Mike Radio was heard on 9290 in South America; it was the OP of Radio Pirana Int. who heard the 31 mb signal. Output on the antenna was about 1500 watt PEP; the tube is an Eimac 4/1000 having a capacity of 2 kW (without modulation!). The use of such high power resulted in too much RF feedback on the studio equipment. As a result the OP changed the direction (east-west) and position of the antenna, now being some 60 metres away from the studio. To optimize the modulation, Mike Radio is hoping to put a new valve pre-amp into service sometime in August. BTW: MR is announcing a "first Sun of the month" schedule 05.00-08.00 UTC on 9290. Quite early.... Website: < www.mike48.com >. Email: < mikeradio48@hotmail.com >. Address is P.O.Box 23, 8090 AA Wezep, the Netherlands.

▣ If you hear "something" on 6250 (a hardly used freq in the past year or so) it could be **RADIO-MIX** putting out dance music with a PLL-controlled homebuilt 35W output. Is this a Hungarian station?? Yes indeed! Check < www.extra.hu/radiomix >. Email: < mixfm@freemail.hu >.

▣ No April's Fools day joke: German **RADIO NORDSEE INT.** WS was raided Sun April 1st while broadcasting on 6210. The German Bundespost in cooperation with local police officers were spoiling the party at 09.20 UTC. All broadcasting equipment was confiscated. Mind you: RNI WS is *not* the other German RNI which was raided last year. Address: P.O.Box 2209, D-77612 Offenburg in Germany.

▣ **RADIO NORTHLIGHT** (9) was heard Sat May 19th/ Sun 20th and May 26th/27th. In the 3rd weekend of May 6306 was in use, a week later the station started on the rather odd 6392 and then moved to 6306. Trms continued from Sat afternoon till Sun morning when 6306 was taken over by Tower Radio. Northlight announced a hotline, power was said to be 20W but that is a fairy tale looking at the strength of the signal... The overall quality was badly affected because of mod problems. Sat June 2nd Northlight was once again occupying 6306 kHz, this time with a rather weak signal. The following day 6260 and 6270 were in use. Sun June 10th saw the station on various freqs including a test on 6170 kHz within the official 49 mb broadcasting band. Other freqs that day were 6211, 6240, 6256 & 6306. Hotline: 0162-8304405. Email: < northlight@free-radio.de >.

▣ **RADIO NOVA** (UK) continued its lengthy test broadcasts on 9290 kHz/ 31 metres in the second half of March. Sun March 18th Nova was heard with non-stop pop music interspersed by announcements. Just after the Easter weekend in April, we were informed that Nova had been raided by UK authorities. The 9290



outlet was confiscated, at the time of the raid the 31 mb outlet had already been on air for more than 5 weeks! The 48 mb outlet was not confiscated as for this one a different site is in use to spread the risk. Otherwise Nova had lost two rigs! Terry Philips told the Newsletter that a new 95W rig for 31 mb purposes is under construction. The new tx could take to the air this month. In the weekend of Sat/Sun May 19th/20th Nova was continuously on air on 6290 providing nice and strong signals across Europe. Especially overnight the signal was excellent!! During two successive weekends (June 23rd/24th and June 30th/July 1st) Nova was heard on 6210. This was a well-considered choice avoiding Dutch powerhouses in the 6280-6310 freq range. June 23rd/24th signals were not as strong as usual, perhaps due to the poor propagation. A week later things were better on 6210. The Email: < confused@onmail.co.uk > is now replaced by a new one: < RNI@onmail.co.uk >. Also the 64 Brighton Rd, Leicester LE5 0HA is replaced by a new address: RNI, 12, BS4 3NE, UK. 2 x US Dollars/ 2x IRCs/ or an SAE from the UK for a reply. Nova have planned fresh shows for the end of July. Could be a new presenter will join the RNI crew by then doing his debut show!

▣ News from **OZONE RADIO**: the station was heard in very poor quality on 5797 kHz Sun April 1st. Propagation that day was appalling. Sun April 15th Ozone was active on 6199 and two weeks later on 7475. Sun May 27th Ozone was heard on 6283 which is a very unusual freq for the station. Add is 85 Hillside Rd West, Suffolk, NR35 RH in the UK. Email: < bbms4ozone@compuserve.com >.

▣ Golden oldie **RADIO PAMELA** was heard on 6400 Sun June 3rd with a fairish signal. Address still is in Switzerland: P.O.Box 35, CH-6027 Romerswil.

▣ **RADIO PANDORA** (10) from the UK was surprisingly heard on 7400 kHz Sun March 18th. That same morning WRCR was relayed on 7400. Sun April 29th Pandora returned on 7400 and that same freq was used on Sun May 27th. During the latter trm a phone number was given out. Signal quality was fine. Sun June 17th the Pandora tx suffered technical problems (on 7400) and the tx went on and off. Finally things went ok and a nice signal was heard in the UK. Also Sun July 1st Pandora was on 7400. Email is < stevestjhon@hotmail.com >.

▣ A station calling itself **RADIO PARADISE** was heard on 6199 Sun June 3rd. 60s Music was played and the following Email was given out: < radiopirate@hotmail.com >. Sun June 10th the station returned on the same freq: 6199.

▣ **RADIO PIRADA INTERNATIONAL** intends to resume broadcasts, probably as from May onwards. RPI used to be active in Europe but some years ago Jorge Garcia returned to South America. That means that any future activities will be aimed at South America although reception in Europe is possible when propagation allows. Add is RPI, Casilla 159, Santiago 14, Chile. Email: < rpi@writeme.com >.

▣ **PIRATE MEETINGS**. The first one took place in Baarle-Nassau. Perhaps a new tradition? For the second time a meeting for free radio freaks (listeners and operators) was organized in Baarle-Nassau near the Dutch/Belgium border. Two stations were organizing this event: Radio Borderhunter and Delmare. The event took place Saturday July 7th starting around 15.00 CEST. At around 19.00 CEST a barbecue was planned. Important (...): antennas for listeners and operators for px-ing and listening could be erected. And for some the most important thing: there was be enough beer.... The following station OP were attending the meeting: R. Brigitte (Belgium), Scandinavian Weekend Radio (Finland), R. Bermudadriek (Germany), R. Grenzwinkel (Germany), Studio Northlight (Germany), R. Cupido (The Netherlands), R. Enterprise (The Netherlands), R.

Titanic (The Netherlands), R. Northpole (The Netherlands), Westcoast R. (The Netherlands), R. Bandonica (The Netherlands), Alfa Lima Int. (The Netherlands), Voice of the Netherlands (The Netherlands), Spaceman R. (The Netherlands) and R.O.Z. (The Netherlands). For more info contact the organization via < borderhunter@hotmail.com > or P.O.Box 44, B-2387 Baarle-Hertog in Belgium.. The best known meeting which has become a real tradition in the mean time is "das Merchweiler Treffen" taking place August 3rd- 5th 2001. Merchweiler is situated in the German Saarland not far away from the French border. A third meeting will take place in Gronau, Germany Saturday Sept. 1st.

▣ **RADIO OMROEP ZUID** (ROZ), a station transmitting from the southern part of the Netherlands was heard several times during weekends in March, April & May. ROZ is using a Rohde & Schwarz SK 010 with 35 Watt and a 1/4 vertical aerial. Sat June 16th at 09.30 UTC ROZ tested on 15070 KHz at this moment. No more details. Email: < roz.am@iae.nl >.

▣ **RADIO PAMELA** was heard on 6400 Sun April 1st. Pamela was, just like a handful of colleague stations, victim of the very poor conditions that day. Address is P.O.Box 35 in Romerswil, Switzerland.

▣ **PRSQ** was heard with a number of tests on 6260 and 6288 Sat May 26th. Signals were poor to fair. The station used the Radio Blue Star P.O.Box in the past but whether this still is the case is uncertain. Email: < prsq@hotmail.com >.

▣ **RADIO SCIROCCO** was heard with poor signals on 6277 Sat April 7th. QTH seems to be the North East of Groningen, the Netherlands. Scirocco is making use of a 10W tx connected to a 22.7 m long Inverted V dipole. The station is also active on FM with much more power: 1000W!! Sat April 14th Scirocco was noted on 6275. Email: < scirocco@swingt.nl >. Currently there's no snailmail address.

▣ **RADIO SCOTLAND** tested on 6270 Sun morning April 29th. The station suffered problems with the modulation which disappeared at the moment the power was upped. Scotland is a very well-known Dutch medium wave pirate. The OP fixed the problem with the help of a colleague station. Sat May 19th at 23.00 UTC saw Scotland on 6270 with a superb signal. Sun July 15th 6240 was in use, however, modulation was far from loud. Address P.O.Box 85, 9410 AB Beilen in the Netherlands.

▣ Sun March 18th **RADIO SHADOWMAN** was noted on 6199 with a very strong signal. Add is P.O.Box 578, 7900 AN Hoogeveen. Email: < ccoelingh@freeler.nl >.

▣ **SONNET RADIO** was conducting a low power test on 6259 Sat May 26th. Power was actually 15W, antenna was a half wave dipole. That same day the station also appeared on 6280 in the (late) evening hours and night. A hotline was open. Plans are to up power to 200W later this year. Currently the antenna is optimized improving the SWR. Sonnet Radio's final low powered test transmissions were scheduled for June 1st, 2nd and 3rd: Fri/Sat: 6260 kHz June 1st: 23:30 UTC - June 2nd 09.00 UTC. Sat/Sun: 6260 kHz June 2nd: 16.00 UTC - June 3rd 02.00 UTC. Sunday: 6260KHz June 3rd: 14.00 UTC- 22.30 UTC.

Some additional details: Power (ERP): 25W. Antenna: Vertical 1/4 Wave (Experimental). For schedule updates, go to: < www.free-radio.de/sonnetradio >. QSL / Program information use this Email address: < sonnetradio@hotmail.com >. Sonnet Radio's Web casts now run Monday - Friday all day / night at < www.live365.com/stations/107830 >.

▣ **SPACEMAN RADIO** is one of the most powerful SW pirates in the Netherlands. The station broadcasts from an ideal "in the middle of nowhere" site in the mid-eastern part of the country. Apart from a handful of 48 mb broadcasts, the station was also heard on 76 metres 3950 Sat evening May 19th. Sun May 20th



the station was noted with extremely strong signals on 6301 and 6305.

▣ In the Radio Free London article there was talk of a new station operated by former RFL Tony Randall. In the weekend of Sat/ Sun June 16th/17th **SWINGING RADIO ENGLAND** made its debut on the 48 mb. The name is far from original but on the other hand: it's a station with decent programming and that's a positive impetus for the current scene. Just like RFL and Nova, SRE seems to be a station operating with a 4 hour loop tape all weekend long. Pxs were radiated on 6276 kHz. Sun July 15th SRE had hoped to be on air but the station suffered problems with their modulation transformer. SRE not only features pop music but also jazz and comedy which is quite different from most stations' output. The station is operating on a weekly basis and the following Email add was announced: <SwingingRadioEngland@hotmail.com>.

▣ **THE SW RELAY SERVICE** (1) from Italy re-appearing on SW since early March of this year, has been heard with irregular broadcasts on 11470 kHz AM. Sat March 17th Treasure Island Oldies was heard via the SWRS tx. As the broadcasts are now in AM (replacing USB mode) the audibility is much better. The modulation quality of the SWRS tx is very loud and clear. Email: <swrs@usa.net>. Website @: <www.swrs.org>.

▣ **TESTSTATION #1** was noted on Easter Mon April 16th on 6306 kHz. It seems this is Swedens only SW station on 48 metres at present time. The station announced to be on air with 500 and later with 1000W. Signal quality was fair/ good on the continent. April 2000 the station was active on 6267 and 6299 using the name Power 48. Sat May 26th 6307 was in use and Sat June 2nd 6290 and 6295. Email was <pr48@hotmail.com> but we are not sure whether this address still is in use!

▣ **RADIO Dr. TIM** (9) made an interesting test on 6322 Sun March 18th. Signal was pretty strong and this part of the band is totally open for broadcasting purposes! The test was conducted with 70W. Sat May 26th 6321 was again in use in the afternoon. Email: <doctortim@t-online.de>. New website: <www.doctortim.de>.

▣ **RADIO TITANIC**, the Dutch station claiming to be broadcasting from the IJsselmeer, carried out a few interesting tests on Easter Monday. Different power was used: 5, 10 and 50 Watt. Result was nearly equally strong signals in parts of Germany and the Netherlands. The Dortmund address is no longer valid, new address is Tulpstraat 10 A, 2223 HS Katwijk, the Netherlands (West Coast Radio add).

▣ **TOWER RADIO** is to be heard every weekend on 6306. Often the station is on air "All Sunday". Power is normally 1 kW but a number of times the station claimed to be on air with 3.5 kW. Where's the end?? Monday April 30th, the Dutch national Queen's Birthday, Tower was on the air for more than 13 hours. Early July the station announced that they got a warning from dutch PTT. In case the stations continues its broadcast activities, a fine of no less than 5000 guilders has to be paid! Sun July 15th Tower Radio was as always on the air, obviously ignoring the warning from the authorities. Email: <radiotower@netmail.nl>. Snailmail: P.O.Box 49, NL-7475 ZG Markelo, the Netherlands.

▣ Sun April 15th at 16.00 UTC **TRANSATLANTIC RADIO** was heard testing on 6250 using the LSB mode. Signal was excellent. TAR uses the following Email add: <transatlantic@planet.nl>. Till the end of July, TAR will be using P.O.Box 4427, 3006 AK Rotterdam.

▣ **UK RADIO** continues with (nearly) weekly broadcasts on 6266/6267 kHz. Fact is this is a free channel where most of the time no other OPs can be heard. Signal quality is mostly fair on the continent with the exception of the early mornings/ evenings when the signal improves. Some 18 months ago UK Radio was

raided and eversince all broadcasts have been aired from a mobile site. Power still is 30W but could be upped sometime later this year. Station OP is Paul Johnson. Plans are to start regular shows on 1593 AM and on 99.3 FM. The station is looking for new deejays. Interested? Write to: P.O.Box 53, Bilstone WV14 6YS Wolverhampton in the UK.

▣ **UNICUM RADIO** from Holland was heard Sat evening April 14th on 6290 and 6302. Power is 50W. The latter freq gave better results. Email is <unicum@hotmail.com>. Website: <unicumradio.com>. Snailmail: P.O.B 9, 8096 ZG Oldebroek.

▣ **URANIUM RADIO**, a new station, was heard on several occasions within the 48 mb in April, May and June. It's a mobile British operation (the good old lonely fields and woods). Sat April 14th the station was heard on 6294. Sat May 19th 6295 was in use by Uranium. Uranium was on several occasions heard on 6295 during weekdays in the evening. Sat June 16th the station was heard on 6295. Address is P.O.Box 53, Bilstone WV14 6YS Wolverhampton in the UK.

▣ **RADIO VERONICA** is a German station which was heard for the first time Sun April 8th. Freq was 6281 and the signal went out in the USB/LSB mode. It seems (that's only a rumour) the OP was already active in the late 70s/ 80s.

▣ **RADIO VICTORIA** from the southern part of the Netherlands (Eindhoven area) was frequently heard on 48 metres. Sun May 20th the station was heard testing on 76 metres 3932 with only 9W. The signal was poor. In contrast with many of its Dutch colleagues, Radio Victoria is using low power and often proves fair results can be achieved. Sun May 27th Victoria carried out an antenna test on 6278, signal strength was fair. The tx is a home-built one covering the 40-80 metre range. Maximum power is just less than 10W with an EL 184 PA valve.

▣ **VOICE OF THE NETHERLANDS** (3) could be heard on several occasions with mostly brief trms. Sat April 7th 6285 (strong!), Sun April 15th 6283, Sat April 28th 6300. Tests were also often noted on weekdays. For instance Wed May 30th and Fri June 1st. Very strong signals were noted on 6283 and 6297 Sat June 2nd. Email: <votn@hotmail.com>. New website: <www.geocities.com/voice of the netherlands/>.

▣ **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO** (2) was logged on 6280 Mon/Tues May 21st/22nd. On Wed 6400 was in use and on Fri/Sat May 26th/27th 6400 was again in use. However: it appeared to be a fake WMR! The recordings heard were from a while ago and coincident or not: the real WMR was heard on 7446 Sunday May 27th. The station's signal was frequently interrupted by a SSB signal at the moment announcements were being made. A voice was heard repeating the words "Radio Freedom will be back" "Radio Freedom will return to 6205". Just for your info: Radio Freedom used to be a Scottish SW pirate in the 1980s. But it is not said the old Radio Freedom was responsible for these annoying SSB interruptions. Sat June 2nd and 24th saw WMR on 7446 with a fair signal. Email: <wmrsw@usa.net>.

▣ **WEST & NORTH KENT RADIO** was surprisingly heard with a poor signal on 6257 & 6275 Sun May 6th (not in //). Sat May 26th in the afternoon WNKR was noted on 6277 going off air just before 15.00 UTC. After 16.00 tests were continued and were also noted in the late evening. A telephone number was announced in the pxs. Sat June 2nd WNKR was heard on 6300. Dave Martin seems to be planning only infrequent broadcasts at present, although this could, of course, alter. At the moment Dave seems to be the only one involved. WNKR was a very regular SW stations in the first half of the 90s and was also associated to WGAS. Andy Walker used to be on WNKR, Dave Martin was the tx engineer. Also Terry Philips (Nova), Adran Cooke, Sam the Dog and Martin C were involved. Just to fresh up your memory:



WGAS was a joint effort of Mi Amigo (Terry Philips), WNKR and WFRL.

☐ **WRCR** was heard via the facilities of Pandora on 7400 Sun March 18th. Signal quality was fair. Sun April 1st saw another relay via Pandora, this time on 6400. Signal was poor (poor conditions). Sun May 27th WRCR returned on with a fair signal and the same applies to Sun June 17th and July 1st. Power was 20W. Email address: < john.sandy@usa.net >.

☐ **WEST COAST RADIO** can be heard very frequently on several 48 mb freqs. Sun March 18th early in the morning a brief test was heard on 6280. Sat April 7th: 6284, Sat April 14th 6293, Sun April 14th 6290, 6291 and 6300, Easter Mon April 16th 6211, 6280 and 6303, Sat April 28th 6306, Sun April 29th 6210, 6295 and 6400.

WCR uses a 50W R & S SK 010 tx connected to an Invetred V antenna. Email: < westcoast48@noknok.nl >.

☐ **WIZZARD MAGIC SPELL** opened the following website: < www.magicspell.free-online.co.uk >.

☐ **XTC RADIO** was heard on 6314 Sat March 17th. The station OP announced that the 64 Brighton Road, LE5 0HA Leicester, UK would close down taking effect immediately. XTC can be reached via the Wuppertal address (1).

RADIO CAROLINE NEWS

Radio Caroline

The signal from the new Astra 1G satellite started at 12 midday BST Monday April 30th. Peter Moore: *"The choice of the Polish satellite may be perplexing to you. We chose it for one reason because it is uplinked from Maidstone where our studio is situated. All other options would have incurred an over land cost for getting the signal to an uplink. Since we have avoided this cost and since UPC/Wizja have agreed a very sympathetic deal, we can now broadcast 24/7 for the first time in eleven years with very cheap air time indeed. Flextech TV were kind enough to give us up to sixty days credit, but understandably our new providers Wizja TV expect payment in advance. So in effect we are paying off the old provider while paying the new one as well. Eventually this will balance out. Caroline Sales finally and kindly cleared the outstanding salvage costs for the incident when Ross Revenge went aground, but this leaves them with no funds for mooring costs, so this responsibility returns to the RCSG for the time being."*

One day before Caroline's restart it became obvious that the music format would be undergoing changes. One of the Caroline people: *"Bob Lawrence will be appointed programme controller. In co-operation with Mark Stafford, he will be in charge of Caroline's musical output. Dave Foster will put together a schedule at what times the deejays are to be heard. In addition: the musical format will be altered. Up till now it was Adult Rock but as from May 2001 Caroline will follow the music policy which was aired from the Mi Amigo in the 70s. That means that artists such as Earth Wind and Fire, O'Jays, Barry White, Stevie Wonder etc. will be aired."* Why? Because the majority of Caroline listeners are male and the station hopes to attract more female ones. So: at least two black artists can be heard each hour. Caroline new style May 2001: after ten days of listening and taking a deep dive on the Internet it appears that a great number of listeners are very dissatisfied! Deejays: on Sundays Barry James, Graham L Hall & Pat Edison. In the evening hours Mark Stafford. On Mon evening Duch jock Sietse Brouwer. Wednesday Gil Legune, Johnny Reece & the Caroline South show from Southern France (also on Thurs/ Fri). On Saturday John Lewis, Buzby, Mark Stafford, Graham L Hall, Nigel Harris

and Jerry Wright. What is Caroline's listening audience nowadays? A small number of lucky ones (?) owning a digitale tuner tuned to 19.2 degrees east. That means continental listeners for most British have their dish pointed at 28 degrees east (Sky).

At the moment Caroline went digital, some of the hours of Radio Caroline South are to be heard via a number of FM outlets to be received at the French/ Italian Riviera. The Breeze 88.4 covers some 100 villages including Cannes, Anitbes, Monte Carlo, Nice, San Remo & St. Tropez.

Very positive is the fact that Caroline is now 24 hours on the air! Although there are still gaps (hours in which no presenters are to be heard) it is of course great for the listener he can tune in to the station at any moment of the day.

In the mean time religious programming ('The Peoples Gospel Hour') is part of Carolines satellite output Monday's 06.00- 06.30 hours. Another religious show is that of Roy Masters, also on Monday's 19.00- 20.00 hours.

As from January 1st 2002, Carolines signal will be heard via the Essent cable network in the Dutch provinces of Groningen and Drenthe. Already some time ago it was agreed that listeners in Friesland and Twente will be able to hear Caroline on their radio. That means a potential of 1.4 million Dutch listeners! The Dutch Caroline branch is responsible for this success. Well done Sietse and co.

Starting late July- at this moment we do not have an exact date- Radio Caroline will be leasing 9 hours of airtime via WBCQ The Planet. What do you mean, *"hey, that name sounds familiar to me"*? Oh yes, you are right! It's the station owned by all time offshore freak Allan Weiner. The pre-recorded shows are going to be aired with a 50,000 watts tx on 17495 and 7415 kHz. WBCQ is mainly targeting its signals to North and South America and the Caribbean. Caroline shows are presented by Tony Christian, Rob Ashard, Dave Fox en Dave Foster.

ADDRESSES: < www.radio-caroline.nl > to hear Caroline via the Internet 24 hours a day 7 days a week! Or alternatively surf to < <http://listen.to/radiocaroline> >. Apart from the Dutch website there's a German one under control of Martin vd Ven: < www.offshore-radio.de/caroline >. For the the English website surf to < www.radiocaroline.co.uk >. Miscellaneous info: Radio Caroline studio: 0044-1622684400. The new Faxnumber: 0044-1622684485. And the address: Radio Caroline, 426 Archway Road, Highgate, London N6 4JH, UK. The Offshore Radio Guide < www.offshore-radio.de >. Caroline website via Martin van de Ven: < www.radiocaroline.de >.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Caroline RSL cancelled

The temporary Caroline return from the Ross Revenge between July 28th- August 24th has been cancelled. Despite the fact that several jocks had already promised to take part : Chris Kennedy, Stevie Gordon, Jerry Wright, Tony Christian, Johnny Reece & Richard Bismarck among others. At the same time another group of radio enthusiasts was attempting to start a RSL for a 28-day FM station in the same reception area (The Isle of Sheppey). The Caroline Group wanted to put out the trms on 1503 AM from the Ross, anchored in Queenborough. The British Radio Authority said no to Caroline's request and decided in favour of the FM group. Moving to mid September which was a possibility, won't happen for organizational reasons.

Caroline wins the poll

TTS-Mediapro Report 15th April 2001: over 1000 votes cast, Caroline leads the poll. In January 2001 TTS-Mediapro opened a poll on it's web site asking the questions:



▣ What if . . . The European Union were to offer a pan European offshore broadcasting licence starting in 2001 to one of the historic offshore stations in recognition of their contribution to the development of European broadcasting? What if . . . Radio enthusiasts could choose who will get the licence by popular vote? Up to the close of voting on 18th June, 1422 people gave their opinion and the results are as follows:

514 Radio Caroline / 221 Laser 558 / 202 Radio Veronica / 187 RNI / 108 Radio Mi Amigo / 46 Radio London / 45 Radio Scotland / 40 'Swinging' Radio England / 12 Radio 270 / 9 Britain Radio / 7 Radio Essex / 7 Radio Nord / 5 Radio City / 2 Radio Invicta / 11 Others. In addition to those stations listed on the voting form, Email votes for 'others' were received for Radio Atlanta, Radio Atlantis and Radio 390. There were also some votes for various current European FM and shortwave pirates'.

R.N.I. RSL

June 3rd saw the start of the 3rd Radio Northsea International revival via a so-called RSL. Trms were once again emanating from the Mebo III (LV #18) on 1503 AM. Names of presenters: Phil Mitchell, Tony Currie, Bob Leroi, Kevin Turner & Victor Hartman (amongst others). Thanks to Clacton Factory Shopping Village, Old Road Paint & Wallpaper Supplies and Track Night Club there was enough financial backing. The start was on Sun June 3rd at 06.00 hours with the legendary 'Man Of Action' tune by the Les Reed Orchestra. For those who weren't able to pick up the station on medium wave: also the Internet offered the opportunity to listen! One of the highlights was the fact that former Mebo II "resident" Tony Allen presented a show on the station Monday June 11th (see also tape offer). And that was good news for Colin Lamb managing the project. Norman Barrington did 5 guest shows, he received no less than 125 Emails following his first show! Reception was satisfactory despite the low powered 1 watt AM tx. (although it is doubtful whether only 1W was used...). Mike Barrington was in charge of the engineering part (he used to work on Roughs Sands /Sealand) doing a fine job. The Internet addresses:

< gallery.uu.net.be/gs/real/RNI1503kHz_2001.rm > and
< www.rni.org.uk > .

Radio London RSL

Radio London Programme Director Paul Graham has again secured a licence for an RSL to take place between August 4th August and August 31st 2001, broadcasting to the Clacton, Essex area. The Clacton Pier management are delighted to welcome the station back and are offering their full support. People still contact them to remark how 'Wonderful' it was to have Big L on the pier last year. The studio for Big L 2001 is to be a conservatory, purpose-built by one of the broadcast's main sponsors, CAT Windows of Clacton. The station will broadcast on the frequency used for the Big L '97 RSL from Walton — 1134 KHz, and work is underway on preparing a more efficient aerial than last year's. Big L 2001 will also be heard via the Net. August will see another Radio London RSL from the Clacton-on-Sea pier. When between August 4th and 31st the sound of Big L will relive on AM 1134 kHz, the names of several former offshore personalities are to be heard: Keith Skues, Ian Damon, Mick Luvzit, Emporor Rosko, Dave Cash, Tony Monsoen and Keith Hampshire. Remarkable is the name of Norman St. John who lives in Australia but who was persuaded by the organisers to do two shows (taped?). Former Caroline jock Bud Bullough living in California- will tape a few shows as well.

Mebo II transmitters

What happened to the Mebo II, that colorful radioship being once being the home of Radio North Sea Int. Already in the mid 80s it was Erwin Meister revealing that the ship was used as a target by the Libyan airforce. As a result she sank to the bottom of the

Mediterranean. In advance, the transmitting equipment was dismantled: not only the original R.N.I. txs but also a 10 kW spare tx which was bought from Veronica in 1975. This 10 kW unit is nowadays still being used on 909 kHz (in Kufra). The 105 kW R.N.I. tx is on a site in Benghazi tuned to 675 kHz (with 100 kW of power).

KING Radio via Internet

Dutch offshore expert Hans Knot announced he's opened a new site on Soundscapes telling the story of the ill fated Radio KING project in the seventies, a story of dreamers. But there's more: some exclusive 270 pictures on that site too. Check the following website: < www.icce.rug.nl/~soundscapes/ > .

Offshore Radio Message Board

Nick Wythe wrote us: "Just to let you know I've set up a brand new offshore radio message board:

< members4.boardhost.com/laserbeam/ > which I truly hope will become a lively forum.

New Offshore Project for Central America

Some time ago The 'Voice of America' show *Communications World* paid attention to Allan Weiner. He was in the news back in 1987 as the key-figure behind Radio New York International. Nowadays he's the owner of private commercial SW radio station WBCQ, based in Maine. In the interview, Weiner talks about the future of SW radio but also about his Offshore "adventures". Weiner claims to be equipping a floating radio vessel in Boston harbour. This ship would sail to Belize starting to air programmes on SW. "Just for fun", but this time with an official permission from the Belize authorities (Belize used to be British Honduras). Website WBCQ: < www.wbcq.net > .

Streaming < audio/wrn.org/ondemand/audio/va2_apr1401.ram > .

Muziek uit Zee

Radio Monique, the commercial cablestation from IJmuiden (Dutch westcoast), will be organizing for the 2nd time the 'Muziek uit Zee' event August 11th & 12th. Readers of the Newsletter will remember that last August this event took place for the first time from a the MV Willem Beukels off IJmuiden. Using the slogan "Muziek uit Zee"(Music from the North Sea) 32 hours of live programming were aired. Okay FM (= former Veronica employee Ad Bouman) and Radio Monique were responsible for the organization. Also this year several former offshore deejays will be invited to take part: Krijn Toringa, Eddie Becker, Marc Jacobs, Ron Bisschop (=Johan Visser), Jos van Heerden, Marc van Amstel, Jurg van Beem, Hugo Meulenhoff, Ad Roland. And yes, once again 32 hours of live pxs will be aired from the Willem Beukels on the North Sea just outside IJmuiden. It is hoped for pxs can be heard nation wide via a two day RSL. Those who are willing to take a look on the Willem Beukels won't be disappointed. You can visit the ship from the Seaport Marina. WEBSITE Monique: < www.hier.is/radiomonique > .

Listener or ANORAK, that's the question...

Even though the heydays of offshore radio are behind us, there are quite vast numbers of experts knowing a lot about the offshore stations of 60s, 70s and 80s. And for those people there's an interesting website with programme extracts, jingles and....a radio quiz consisting of 30 offshore-related questions, complete with photos and extracts. If your score is exceeding 70% you may call yourself an Anorak! The topscores are kept on the site. Go to the site below and click on radio and quiz and you will find out.... < www16.brinkster.com/henkleppers/mpage/main.htm > . By the way: this website is a production of a former FRS jock!

Where are they now?

Nick Richards, in the 70s active for Radio Caroline, changed from Belfast *City Beat* to *96 FM* in Cork. **Ben van Praag**, in 1979 to be heard via Radio Mi Amigo 272 (Magdalena) is now on



Radio Zeven Maeva (Radio Seven), the station that tries to copy the old Radio Maeva format added with a touch of 'Mi Amigo'. Former Laser 558 deejay **Tommy Rivers** has a new employer. Following Laser's close down in 1985, Rivers stayed in the UK just like colleague Charlie Wolf. He worked for UPI and CBS. recently he moved to the #1 US TV network ABC. Talking of Laser employees: former Laserette **Erin Kelly** is now working on WYCD Detroit under her own name *Erin Weber*. And *Kirk Clyatt*, alias **KC** in the Morning on Laser Hot Hits 576, works on a NY station specializing in weather reports. Finally: *Dan Crafton* alias **Steve Masters** on Laser 558, works on the Voice of America.

Looking for some great TAPE OFFERS?
Just take a look on page 14!

FRS Sales Productions.....a name to remember.

Euro Radio 2001

France Radio Club & Offshore Echo's Magazine organized Euroradio 2001! July 7th. Place to be was the Car Ferry Terminal Complex in Calais, France. Central theme this year was the role of the Radio forts as part of the radio history. Particularly Sealand and the REM-isle were paid attention to. A few former REM crew members (engineering crew) attended the meeting in Calais. <www.offshoreechos.com/>. Email: <Euroradio2001@offshoreechos.com>.

Arie van Loon

April 17th Arie van Loon passed away at the age of 44. Offshore enthusiasts will perhaps know him under his deejay name *Hugo de Groot*. He was one of the last three Dutch deejays on Radio Caroline in early 1980. In 1981 he started presenting shows on Radio Maeva in Belgium and he became very popular among the Belgian listening audience. He leaves behind his wife and two children. May he rest in peace.

WABC returned to old format

Some 1.5 million listeners from the legendary US radio station WABC were surprised a few weeks ago when the station turned back the clock to the days when WABC was world famous because of its music format. WABC Musicradio 77 was the station in the 60s/70s. The 12 hour event announced as 'WABC Rewound 2001', contained numerous programme extracts from deejays like Dan Ingram and Cousin Brucie. Nowadays WABC is a popular talk radio station. WABC: <www.wabcradio.com>. Listening to musicradio 77: <www.musicradio77.com/>.

Chris Carey

By the end March former Caroline/RNI deejay and Nova boss in the 80s Chris Carey was released from prison. The first thing Chris did was exploring the techniques of the Internet. And so he revealed during a chat session that he still loves radio... He hopes to get a consulting job within the radio industry.

Weltempfaengertestbuch nr. 10.

Volume #10 is out. Niels Schiffhauer tested a number of SW communications receivers and a summary of his test reports is to read in this book. A long, alphabetical list of no less than 200 pages covers the SW receivers currently available in shops. All interesting aspects regarding the receivers along with technical details are described. Orders from Siebel Verlag Leserservice, Auf dem Steinbuechel 6, D 53340 Meckenheim, Germany. Email: <Leserservice@siebel-verlag.de>. Just a little tip: on the website of Radio Netherlands World Service you can find the *Receiver Shopping List*. Just surf to <www.rnw.nl>.

First real WEBRADIO receiver almost for sale

A new revolutionary radio receiver making listening to webradio stations independent from computers. A stand alone device using the name Kerbango, will be soon on the market (or is already for sale when you read this). 3Com says the price will be US \$ 300, excluding Internet costs. The Kerbango can also be used for AM/ FM reception. This fine piece of modern technology enables you to have access to thousands of radio stations all over the world. A link must be made via a cable modem (ADSL or ISDN). A future type will also allow to use an ordinary modem. A monochrome LCD display enables a listener to "leaf" between the stations and chose all kind of music, news etc. Very important is whether the signal will be continuously sent to the receiver. But remember: all those webradio stations are also to be heard via your very own computer!

Transmitter circuits

An idea for 2001? Start your own radio station! NetPlay Radio is a solid 'pay and go' package for sale for 189 dollar. You can broadcast your very own pxs on FM between 87.9 and 107.9 MHz. For instance connect your computer audio output to the input of the NetPlay Radio and you can be received in a range of...30 metres.

Of course there are cheaper solutions. If you like to do some own engineering (you are skilful!), a possibility is to order online a complete kit for less money. You put it together and the result is the same as NetPlay Radio. You can order 4 different packages via Canadian Canakit. One miniature, one ordinary, a walkman and a professional stereo version. The latter is the most expensive one costing only 30 dollars. The transmitter range is 150 metres.

If you have a gift for building transmitters, then go to your nearest-by local electronic shop building all necessary components and start building. Circuits in all sorts are to be found on the website of the University of Guelph in Canada. If you are on that site, click on search and fill in the word "transmitter". A few seconds later you will be astounded by the enormous variety of circuits. NetPlay Radio:

<www.netplayradio.com>.

Canakit: <www.canakit.com/English/FMTransmitters.asp>.

INTERNET RADIO

In this column we feature a great variety of Internet websites related to radio plus interesting Internet radio news. Contributions are more than welcome....

⊕ Former Veronica and RNI employee Ted Bouwens has on his own website photos from his offshore period.

Surf to <members.ams.chello.nl/tbouwens/>.

⊕ A new site for those of you interested in old Top 40 lists: <www.orchestra.ch/rs/offshore.html>.

⊕ The Association of Clandestine Radio Enthusiasts: <www.frn.net.ace/>.

⊕ The Association for International Broadcasting:

<www.cityspace.co.uk/users/in73/>.

⊕ The British DX club: <www.bdx.org.uk/>.

⊕ A summary of important Radio Hauraki happenings:

<www.tvradioworld.com/region2/nzl/nzl-his.asp>.

⊕ Remember Mike Baron, Caroline deejay in 1974? His site:

<www.mike-baron.co.uk>.

⊕ A site with the history of British radio with links to offshore radio: <www.sterlingtimes.co.uk>.

⊕ Walter Simons who did live shows on the Ross for Radio Monique has opened his own site: <www.zeezenders.nl>. He tells about his personal experiences. Interesting!



- ★ Nice site: < listen.to/offshoreradio >.
- ★ A new Laser site from John McKay:
< www.interlog.com/~jmckay/laser.htm >.
- ★ Former Caroline jock Robbie Dale (who runs a holiday park in Spain) is also on the Internet:
< www.sanfranciscopark.com/html/your_hosts.html >
- ★ A Belgian site covering the subject of radio & TV tunes:
< users.pandora.be/chris.de.cleyn/radio.htm >.
- ★ The history of the REM isle:
< www.omroep.nl/tros/homepage/service/informatie/fr_info.html >.
- ★ Former Mi Amigo deejay Ton Schipper:
< www.tonschipper.net >.
- ★ Offshore radio:
< www.chel.anglia.ac.uk/~mwillis/pirate.html-2k >.
- ★ Memories from the radio history: < www.Speakcom.nl.nu/ >.
- ★ In 1965 *Hilversum 3* was the new nationwide Dutch popstation starting trms to compete against Radio Veronica:
< www.internetnetwork.com/radio/eurorad.htm >.
- ★ A site with news about Ferry Maat:
< www.xs4all/~amm/ferry.htm >.
- ★ Memories of the Dutch service on Radio Luxembourg:
< home.iae.nl/users/vdmark/pkqrlux.htm >.
- ★ Info about Keith Hampshire, better known as *Keefers* on Radio Caroline in the 60s: < www.getmusic.com >.
- ★ For one day a deejay on an offshore station. Hank Hayes on Radio New York International. Two sites covering him:
< www.reelradio.com/hayes > and < www.hankhayes.com >.
- ★ A former Radio Paradijs deejay van be heard with his own programme on the Internet. The programme is on a weekly basis and lasts two hours. < wrocksoundradio.tmfweb.nl >.
- ★ Mike Raven, known for his work on Invicta Radio, KING & Radio 390, died in 1997. A memorial site about him is:
< www.bodminmoor.co.uk/churtonfairman/obit.html >.
- ★ If you are interested in the Dutch radio landscape, then visit the following website:
< www.geocities.com/TelevisionCity/lot/2941/Index.html >.
- ★ If you collect vintage radios, then surf to
< www.oldtimeradio.com >.
- ★ Of course there are more site devoted to the subject of vintage radios. Someone has a passion for radios from the 1919-1929 period.
< www.toptown.com/hp/nillola/index.htm >.
- ★ More vintage radios: < www.otr-trader.com/oldpage.htm >.
- ★ Nostalgic radioshow from the 40s and 50s can be heard on
< www.lofcom/nostalgie/ >.
- ★ HAM Radio: < radio.rootwebs.com >.
- ★ Jingles, jingles, more jingles. Former Radio Monique presenter Hendrik van Nellestein who founded jingle company Simrek does a lot of "jingling" on his site: < www.simrek.nl >.
- ★ The site from Wilhelm Herbst publishing company is very interesting looking at reissues of publications from transmitters and antennas. from the 30s and 40s:
< www.wilhelm-herbst-verlag.de >.
- ★ Interesting for rockers, a visit to Canadian Toronto-based WZRock: < www.wzrock.com >.
- ★ An innovative site is that of Dr. Demento who was once heard on Laser 558 (mid 80s): < www.dremento.com >.
- ★ We travel to Germany where we find the site of Berlin-based KISS FM: < www.kissfm.de >.
- ★ The European Medium Wave Guide is now also active on the Internet: < <http://go.to/emwg> >.
- ★ Another interesting site is that of 'The guide to shortwave listening: < havanna.iwsp.com/radio/ >.
- ★ A QSL collector site: < www.microlink.net/~haroldv >.

- ★ LBH Radio, targeting at the European gay community via the Internet, AM and satellite (near future) also has a site:
< www.lbhradio.com >.

MADE IN HOLLAND

MARCH

▶ A hectic month for Radio Nationaal. Due to lack of incoming funds the station can't pay the hire for its two AM transmitters. As a result these transmitters are closed down on March 1st. Programmes continue on cable. Next day the station is adjudged bankrupt and also ceases transmissions via cable. The nine employees are fired. Program director Karel van Kooten still is convinced there is a market for a station playing Dutch music. He searches for new backers. And with success! At the end of the month the station returns on cable. A new financial backer had been found. Most of the employees return to the station. For the moment (= March), the station doesn't transmit on AM, because of the heavy financial costs of these frequencies.

▶ Another commercial station in trouble: Arrow Classic Rock has to leave its transmitter site near Rotterdam in September. The council of Binnenmaas has tolerated the mast for some time, but has put an end to this situation. Until the re-location of FM frequencies Arrow can use some available channels.

▶ What's in a name? That could be the headline for the next "story". From April 2nd onwards the commercial broadcaster Veronica has to change name. That's because the veronica society, owner of the name, has left the commercial broadcaster taking the name "Veronica" with it. Now the radio and tv station has to find a new name. Initially it was intended to adopt the name "Me". But a court case initiated by a clothing-brand called "We" prevented this. A new name had to be searched. It became: "Yorin". Reactions towards this name were "mixed", to state it mildly. The Veronica society hopes to start broadcasts on tv and radio in September. Under its own name....

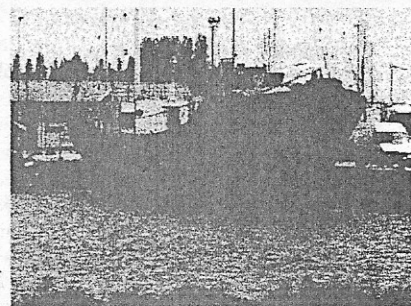
▶ A new proposal for the re-location of radio frequencies. A probably known, a auction should be held this Autumn. However, a lot of resistance to this plan occurred. Now a committee, formed by the Government, comes with a new advise: 6 commercial stations can keep their frequencies, Business Nieuws Radio has to move to another frequency and three packages will be auctioned. The seven commercial stations have to pay for their frequencies. How much isn't clear at this moment. The Government agrees with these proposals.

APRIL

▶ The former Radio Veronica ship *Norderney* (photo) makes a trip across the Dutch waters towards Belgium. The ship has been in the Northern town of Leeuwarden for several years. The owner, a Dutch brewery, wants to use the ship the coming years as a party boat in Antwerpen, Belgium. Before sailing to Belgium, the ship stays some days on the former island of Urk, where necessary work has been done.

MAY

▶ Radio Monique, a commercial local radio station at the Dutch coast, is organising another "Muziek uit Zee" project coming August. Just like last year deejays from former offshore radio



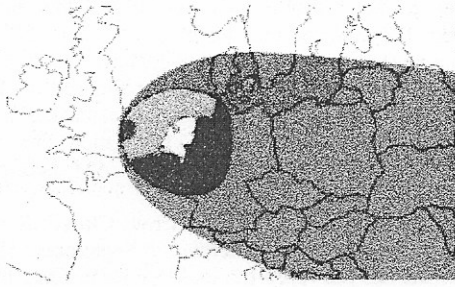


stations will be presenting programmes from a ship off the Dutch coast. Also old radio programmes and jingles will be aired. No names of people to be heard are revealed yet. Last year the programmes were relayed by other Dutch radio stations. It is not known whether this will take place again.

JUNE

☐ As from July 4th **Radio 192** will start broadcasting on medium wave. Radio 192 is named after the old Radio Veronica wavelength "1-9-2" (see special feature).

☐ Radio Nationaal (see also March) is leasing airtime via the former 1296 kHz AM former BBC tx from Merlin Communications Ltd. Radio Nationaal is a Dutch commercial radio station (just like Arrow Classic Rock, Radio 10 FM, Radio 538 etc.) which had to cease its nationwide AM txs a few months ago.



The 1296 move was not expected but due to mysterious backers the station is able to pay the rent of the powerful tx site in the UK. The tx has a power of no less than 500 kW and was already rented by Belgian radio stations in the past (who tested on 1296). The tx is situated near the UK south-east coast and the signal is beamed to the European continent. That guarantees a very powerful signal during daytime in the Netherlands and Belgium. A signal which will be superior to the signals which were put out by the station on 1332 and 1035 a few months ago. Moreover: 1296 is a very clear frequency. In the evening hours or better: during the dark hours- 1296 will be causing some fading, particularly during autumn and winter time. Monday July 1st at 12.00 hours Radio Nationaal kicked off on 1296. The station's musical format mainly consists of Dutch artists. Former Veronica/ Radio 538 jock Bart van Leeuwen is to be heard on the station.. The deal was settled Wed June 13th. Tuesday June 26th at 10.00 hours the very first tests were carried out on 1296, response was enormous. And the nature of the response was that the signal strength was absolutely fantastic. At 10.47 the 500 kW tx was switched off. Radio Nationaal: < www.radionationaal.nl >
☐ Soon a weekly show will be aired from the former Veronica ship Norderney, moored in the Antwerp harbour. Every Sun afternoon between 15.00- 18.00 hours cable station Radio Seven will be airing a show "Groeten vanaf de Norderney", full of Offshore Memories. Presenter is Serge van Gisteren.

JULY

☐ Just before going into recess the Dutch cabinet and Second Chamber talked about the a possible auction of Dutch FM/AM frequencies. The outcome is that the cabinet (Dutch ministers) and the Second Chamber (=opposition) are diametrically to each other. The cabinet hold on to the principle of an auction while in the Second Chamber's view some of the bigger Dutch commercial stations (Radio 538, Sky Radio, Radio 10 FM) must be freed of taking part in an auction. In other words: they are given preferential treatment because of all the efforts they made to become what they are now: well-respected profitable stations reaching big audiences. The stations are furious because in their view they now must pay a lot of money to obtain a frequency package. Knowing they already invested big amounts of money to get popular having good figures means they now will become victim of their own popularity. Some of the smaller stations are of course happy as they will have greater chances of obtaining a

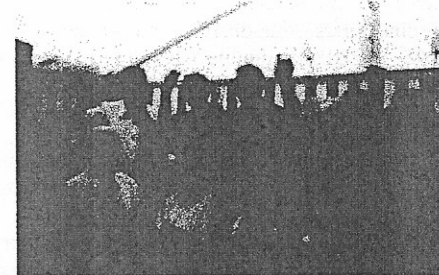
nationwide FM package (KinK FM, Arrow Classic Rock, Q The Beat etc.). In the end Dutch parliament/ Second Chamber adopted a motion in which the cabinet is requested to investigate in which way a so-called "beauty contest" can be organized. According to Parliament the auction must meet the following criterion: the interests of the stations with the highest current market share and highest investments come first. In other words: stations like Radio 538, Sky Radio and Radio 10 FM don't have to worry and can stay where they are right now. The remaining less attractive packages will be allocated to the others (Arrow Classic Rock, KinK FM, Q The Beat, Yorin FM etc.).

☐ **Ferry Maat** back on Dutch radio ? Ferry Maat, one of Holland's most famous deejays from the past three decades, will be soon continuing his career on a new station. Maat- in the past he worked on R.N.I., Radio 10, Hit Radio- was fired on Dutch national M.O.R. station Radio 2 because of disagreements with his employer, the NCRV (one of the Dutch broadcasting societies). That was at the end of 2000. Rumours indicated he would be joining Radio 192 (see Feature elsewhere in this Nwl) but Maat himself denies. Ferry Maat: *"A report in Veronica Magazine has caused all these rumours. At this moment I am talking to several interested parties about my return on the wireless. But I can assure you I haven't spoken to anybody of Radio 192."*

☐ John de Mol is willing to buy with private money a commercial radiostation in the Netherlands. Even when it costs him 100 million guilders! This report was published by one of the Dutch weekly's, Nieuwe Revu. De Mol started his career as a studio engineer on the offshore station Radio North Sea International. His father was managing-director of Strengtholt, the company owning the Dutch part of R.N.I. in the 70s. Nowadays John de Mol is head of Endemol, one of Europe's leading TV production companies.

FRS Mini Feature: RADIO 1-9-2

Wednesday July 4th at 18.00 hours Dutch time saw the launch of a brandnew Dutch radio station: Radio 192. Pxs were started with the familiar 1-9-2 jingles (a lot of the old 60s jingles are resung). At 18.30



The Opening of Radio 192: the station's staff

Tineke delivered a brief speech in which she talked about the start and future of the commercial radio station. At 20.30 91 year old (!) former Veronica managing-director Bull Verweij was interviewed. The

name of the station refers to the old Veronica wavelength way back in the 60s (till 1971 it was 192 metres, than Veronica changed to 538). The "new" radiostation is in fact the rebirth of Okay FM (formerly Radio Gooiland) and the new frequency is 1332 AM. Radio 192 is radio with a nostalgic flavour bringing back on the wireless the offshore feeling. Radio 192 aims its programming at the 25-49 age group. This forgotten group of listeners can enjoy the music of the past, the jingles (Herinnert u zich deze nog, nog.....???) and programmes presented by offshore veterans as well as a number of younger people. The station reported: *"Since July 4th the fax never stops, the Internet is like a madhouse. Between the start of Radio 192 Wednesday*



July 4th and Monday July 9th more than 80,000 people have visited our website." The fact that Radio 192 is nostalgia is proved by programmes like "Music Memories" (every working day), specialized 70s and 80s shows, re-broadcasts of Veronica offshore programmes (each Sat & Sun) and airing a weekly Top 40 from the past (Saturday afternoon). Many of the presenters on the station are former Veronica offshore jocks: Tineke, Will Luikinga, Eddie Becker, Ad Bouman, Krijn Toringa, Edvard Niessing, Chiel Montagne are just some of the names to be heard on 192. And not to forget Ted Bouwens who worked on both Radio North Sea and Veronica. Radio 192 is to be received in the Dutch "Randstad" (the big cities in Western Holland) and in some parts of the rest (30%). In addition the station is on 98 FM in "Het Gooi" (area situated north of Utrecht), Greater Amsterdam and North Holland (90.00 FM). Good news is that the station can be heard world wide 24 hours a day via livestream on the Internet. Just go to the website and click on the "live" button. The brandnew Internet site: <http://www.192goedidee.nl> >.

Herinnert u zich deze nog?



24 uur per dag

98.0

op de kabel in het hele Gooi en Vecht gebied

FRS Mini Feature: Digital AM Radio

ITU clears the way to digital AM Radio

A new wave of broadcasting is about to reach the marketplace with the recent adoption, by the Int. Telecommunication Union, of a world-wide standard on digital sound broadcasting. The technology breakthrough promises to open up a new era of quality sound broadcasting for long, medium and short wave transmissions. With the FM bands nearly congested and the relatively poor quality of AM, digital AM radio offers many substantial advantages to broadcasters seeking to recapture market shares. For consumers, the decision means additional sources of programmes at FM like quality with low-cost, simple to use receivers.

Because the same frequency bands based on the same channels will be used and the handsets will continue to be available in the same range of choices (fixed, portable and mobile radio), the change over to the new system will be completely transparent. What will be noticeable however will be the improved quality with crystal-clear reception, the more diverse pxs content as a result of the increase of broadcasters that will be able to be accommodated in the existing AM bands as well as richer content that the new digital features will offer. "It is a breath of fresh air" said Peter Senger, Chairman of Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM). "This landmark decision will bring affordable digital quality sound and services to the world radio markets that will surpass listeners' expectations and will revive the broadcasting market in areas whose development was stagnating" adding "This is the biggest advancement in broadcasting since the invention of the transistor".

DRM (Digital Radio Mondiale) is an international consortium consisting of some of the largest international broadcasters, communications systems developers and the electronic manufacturing sectors, whose main aim is to formulate a non-proprietary, evolutionary and market driven digital

AM system design and to facilitate the spread of AM digital technology around the world. IBiquity is a leading US provider of digital radio and audio compression technology solutions. Both are members of ITU's Radiocommunication Sector.

New and improved services to AM radio listeners

Robert Struble, President and Chief Executive Officer of Biquity Digital Corp. hailed the decision as a significant milestone on the road towards a global standard for AM digital broadcasting. "Digital broadcasting offers the potential for new and improved services to AM radio listeners who will greatly benefit from the existence of a world-wide standard for the transmission and reception of digital signals", he said. For manufacturers, it brings a second lease of life to older AM technologies with increased market potential for transmitters and receivers. Considering that there are potentially some 2.5 billion radio receivers that will ultimately be candidates for replacement, of which some 700 million for SW reception, combined with a 1000 transmitters world-wide, the benefit for equipment and semiconductor manufacturers is clear.

Top quality at substantial lower costs

For broadcasters, the new technology means that they will be able to bring FM quality to AM bands at substantially lower costs. Because the new technology is accommodating existing frequency plans, they will be able to modify and continue to use their existing transmitters provided they are fairly modern. Digital AM will also be much more spectrum-efficient, making it possible to reduce the power of transmitters by as much as 25% while maintaining the same coverage area. Broadcasters will also be able to transmit programmes in two languages, a plus in bilingual countries or in border zones between countries that use different languages. Apart from the better audio quality, the digital signal is more reliable and robust implying it can be nearly interference-free. Receivers will tune to the best possible reception quality of a given station, based on the strength of the signal and the Automatic Frequency Switching (AFS) system, within any of the long, medium and short wave bands.

On market by 2003

Digital AM radio is expected to reach mass market by 2003. In the transition period, transmitters and receivers will handle both analogue and digital signals, thus enabling broadcasters who have large operations in the AM band to opt for simulcast to continue serving their customers while building a new market. Manufacturers are expected to provide the market with multistandard receivers to enable the simultaneous reception of analogue AM and FM as well as digital AM stations. In vacant AM channels, broadcasters will be able to launch full digital AM as the receivers will recognise both analogue and digital signals.

- * Programmes can be transmitted in two languages (a plus in bilingual countries or border zones).
- * Receivers will tune to the best possible reception quality of a given station (Automatic Frequency Switching).
- * Broadcasts bring FM quality to AM bands at substantially lower costs.

The above is a summary of an article which appeared in Infosat Europe 1/2001 #24. The article was kindly provided to us by our reader Christian Bergmann.

Txs to: Hans Knot, Andy Cadier, RadioVisie, SRS-News, Werner Schauermaun, Ozone Radio, Chr. Bergmann.

FRS Sales Productions Special Summer Offers 2001

** All the offers below haven't been listed in the FRS Sales Productions booklet so far.*

- OFFER 1 **MUZIEK UIT ZEE (1)** was a project organised by Ad Bouman (former Veronica employee) and Ijmuiden based Radio Monique on August 30th/31st 2000 commemorating the Dutch offshore stations. Live broadcasts on FM came from the MV Willem Beukels 400 metres off IJmuiden with several former offshore jocks. Wed August 30th 19.00-19.30 with Nico Stevens, Jan Veldkamp, Bert Bennett, Ad Bouman. Excellent audio quality. 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 2 **MUZIEK UIT ZEE (2)**. Wed August 30th 19.30-19.40/ 20.00-21.25 with Nico Stevens, Jan Veldkamp, Bert Bennett, Ad Bouman. Excellent audio quality. 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 3 **MUZIEK UIT ZEE (3)**. Wed August 30th 21.28-23.00 with Nico Stevens, Jan Veldkamp, Bert Bennett, Ad Bouman, Ad Roberts. Excellent audio quality. 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 4 **MUZIEK UIT ZEE part 1,2 & 3** for DM 25.00/ £ 7.15 !!
- OFFER 4 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** The official start of R.N.I. Febr. 28th 1970 06.00- 08.00 hours with Roger "Twiggy" Day and Horst Rainer. R.N.I. was on 186 m AM, 102 MHz FM and 6210 kHz SW. Good AM quality! 120 min.- DM 16.00/ £ 6.70 .
- OFFER 5 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** June 17th 1970 04.55- 06.25 hours. Pxs on 244 m are hosted by Carl Mitchell & Roger Day. At that moment the Mebo II was anchored off the English coast. Some of the output went out under the name Caroline and that was because of the upcoming elections in the UK. Fair/ good AM quality! 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 6 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** Roger Day on R.N.I. from the Mebo II off the English coast June 21st 1970 07.41- 08.41 hours. Very good quality! 60 min.- DM 9.00/ £ 2.60 .
- OFFER 7 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** Andy Archer, Allan West & engineer Bruno on the World Service 9935 & 6205 Sept. 24th 1970 (20 min.). In addition R.N.I.'s first female presenter Jane Valentine hosting the World Service Nov. 14th 1971. Fine SW quality! 60 min.- DM 9.00/ £ 2.60 .
- OFFER 8 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** The Super Hit Top 50 from Sat Oct. 2nd 12.00-15.00 presented by Joost den Draaier. Fair/ good quality! 180 min.- DM 22.50/ £ 6.45 .
- OFFER 9 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** Mike Ross with the Hitback Show on Boxing Day Dec. 26th 1971 21.00-22.30 hours. Very good quality! 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 10 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** The final "Brian McKenzie Show" as part of the English Service Fri August 30th 1974 22.00- 23.00 hours. Studio-copy! 60 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 11 **RADIO NORTHSEA INT.** The final "Musical Box" hosted by Robin Banks as part of the English Service Fri August 30th 1974 21.00- 22.00 hours. Studio-copy! 60 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 12 **RADIO CAROLINE** on 259 m featuring Tony Allen in the night of August 31st/ Sept. 1st 1974 23.45-01.15 few hours after the Dutch version of the MOA came into force. Mainly good AM quality. 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 13 **RADIO CAROLINE.** On side A tunes and jingles in variable quality (mostly ok, 20 min.) plus a studio-copy of Roger Matthews on 319 August 8th 1978 18.14- 19.20 (65 min.). 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 14 **RADIO CAROLINE.** Tom Lodge on Caroline North July 12th 1965 08.00-09.00 and Rosko on Caroline South August 10th 1966 (30 min.). Fair quality. 90 min.- DM 9.50/ £ 2.75 .
- OFFER 15 **RADIO MI AMIGO** Dec. 1st 1977, the day of the change from 212 to 319 metres AM. Good AM quality. 120 min.- DM 17.50/ £ 5.00 .
- OFFER 16 **RADIO NORTHSEA RSL 2001.** Tony Allen back in the hot seat on RNI off Clacton-on-Sea June 11th 2001. Very good AM quality. DM 9.00/ £ 2.75 .
- OFFER 17 **RADIO CAROLINE SATELLITE.** The final day of the analogue trms via the Astra satellite Saturday March 31st 2001 from 12.06- 14.06 BST with Mark Stafford & Tony Chistian playing their favourite Top 10. Crisp clear stereo quality. 120 min.- DM 17.50/ £ 5.00 .
- OFFER 18 **RADIO CAROLINE SATELLITE.** The final day of the analogue trms via the Astra satellite Saturday March 31st 2001 from 14.00- 15.30 BST with David Foster & Alex Hamilton playing their favourite Top 10. Crisp clear stereo quality. 90 min.- DM 10.00/ £ 2.85 .
- OFFER 19 **RADIO CAROLINE.** The final day via the Astra satellite Saturday March 31st 2001 from 20.05- 22.05 BST with Busby & Graham L.Hall and the start of Tony Allen. 120 min.- DM 17.50/ £ 5.00 .
- OFFER 20 **RADIO CAROLINE.** The final day via the Astra satellite Saturday March 31st 2001 from 22.05- 24.00 BST with Tony Allen back on Radio Caroline. 120 min.- DM 17.50/ £ 5.00 .